



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina
29221-1398

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

Tel: (803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 10, 2024

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information
(803) 260 – 3020
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SLED CHARGES GEORGETOWN COUNTY MAN WITH UNLAWFUL STORAGE OR POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS IN A PLACE OF BUSINESS

Agents with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Ronnel Rice, 39, on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, with Unlawful Storage or Possession of Alcoholic Liquors in a Place of Business. The investigation was a joint operation between the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, and SLED.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Rice was booked at the Georgetown County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 15th Circuit Solicitor's Office.

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ARREST WARRANT

2024A2210500013

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Georgetown

THE STATE

54-24-0119

against

Ronnel Rice

Address:

Georgetown, SC 29440-6049

Phone: SSN: [REDACTED]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 11 Weight: 180

DL State: SC DL #: [REDACTED]

DOB: 1984 Agency ORI #: [REDACTED]

Prosecuting Agency: Sled Alcohol Enforcement/Vice Services

Prosecuting Officer: Rodney C Weaver, Jr - S00575

Offense: Alcohol / Unlawful storage or possession of
alcoholic liquors in place of business - 1st offense

Offense Code: 0246

Code/Ordinance Sec: 61-06-4060(a)

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of

The accused

is to be arrested and brought before me to be

dealt with according to the law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to

Defendant: RONNEL RICE

on 01/10/24 1150

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer
BRANDEN BAKER

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions

P.O. Box 170

401 Cleland Street, Room 115

Georgetown, SC 29442

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ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Georgetown

Personally appeared before me the affiant Rodney C Weaver, Jr who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Ronnel Rice

did within this county and state on or about 1/5/2024 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Georgetown)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Alcohol / Unlawful storage or possession of alcoholic liquors in place of business - 1st offense

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

On January 5, 2024, while assisting the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office at Hush Lounge, 234 Handy Hill Dr. in Georgetown, SC, SLED Agent observed alcoholic liquors stored in the Hush Lounge. Hush Lounge did not possess the required alcohol license issued by the South Carolina Dept. of Revenue required to store alcoholic liquors in a place of business. Hush Lounge possessed a valid retail license issued by the SC Dept. of Revenue, which recognized Hush Lounge as a business. According to the South Carolina Dept. of Revenue retail license, the defendant, Ronnel Rice, was the registered operator for Hush Lounge. The unlawful storage of liquor in a business is against the law, peace and dignity of the State of South Carolina and a violation of the SC code of laws 61-06-4060(a). R. Weaver, Jr. Case #54-24-0119

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Georgetown

Affiant's Address 4400 Broad River Road

Columbia, SC 29210-

Affiant's Telephone (803)917-3992

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that

on or about 1/5/2024 defendant Ronnel Rice

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Georgetown) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Alcohol / Unlawful storage or possession of alcoholic liquors in place of business - 1st offense

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 1/10/2024

Signature of Issuing Judge

Isaac Lester Pyatt

Judge Code: 5899

Judge's Address 333 Cleland Street

Georgetown, SC 29442

Judge's Telephone (843)545-3381

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 618

AFFIDAVIT